FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VIOLA REPORTEDLY TO BECOME PRESIDENT IN 1981

PY061313 Paris AFP in Spanish 1238 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (AFP)--The liberal morning newspaper LA NACION announced here today that Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola, current commander in chief of the army, will succeed Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla as president of Argentina in 1981. Viola, who is also a member of the government military junta installed here almost 4 years ago, will retire by the end of 1979 and will be replaced by Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri as army commander. Fortunato, who currently is commander of the powerful I Corps, which has jurisdiction over this capital and all the industrial belt which surrounds it, was named to succeed General Viola only 48 hours ago. This imminent change in the army command--the newspaper reports--is recorded in circles [sentence unfinished].

Further Details

PY070037 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 6 Dec 79 p 8 PY

[From the "National Politics" column]

[Excerpts] The army has a new commander in chief for the years 1980-81. It is Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, current commander of I Corps.

General Viola has announced on several occasions that he will retire toward the end of this year unless an exceptional circumstance forces him to change his decision. In military terms, this exceptional circumstance has a name: the Beagle; and it meant a possible problem--the worsening of the conflict with Chile. From this perspective, the retirement of the current commander of the army clearly shows the state of the pope's mediation in this conflict.

This imminent change in the army is taking place at a time when the name of General Viola is mentioned, in the general political speculations, as the only candidate, at least at this time, to succeed President Videla in March 1981. Therefore, this situation brings to mind a first consideration: How is the man who is now retiring going to take advantage of the time between 1 January and the moment the military junta meets again as an electoral body in the third quarter of 1980? There is also a first answer, in keeping with the viewpoint one has regarding the authority that the military could or could not exercise on the real power in Argentina during 1980. In this regard, it seems reasonable to think that any potential candidate to succeed President Videla--through a military decision--is now forbidden to follow some usual practices in this matter: for international recognition, a trip to Europe and the United States to enhance his reputation; in internal matters, opening a political office, precisely because the decision will be strictly political.

BOMB EXPLODES AT PRENSA ECONOMICA OFFICES

PY062224 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1746 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (NA)--A medium-sized bomb exploded in the editor's office of the monthly magazine PRENSA ECONOMICA early this morning, causing considerable damage but no injuries, according to a communique released by the publishing company. There were no immediate clues as to who was responsible for the attack or the motives behind it.

PROTESTS CONTINUE AGAINST GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC MEASURES

Gueiler Issues Warning

PY051330 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Bolivian President Lidia Gueiler Tejada has stated in Santa Cruz that if disorders continue in the country the executive will fulfill its governmental obligations. Making a stanch defense of her government, President Gueiler noted that she wanted to have a dialog with all organizations about the economic problem. Furthermore, she criticized the demonstration the COB [Bolivian Labor Central] held yesterday by noting that the labor class should be mobilized only as a last resort.

President Gueiler said she was convinced that since the National Congress had handed over to her the leadership of the country, the Congress would hold a policy dialog with the administration to overcome the present crisis.

The president discarded the possib lity of a reshuffle of the cabinet that was sworn-in 17 days ago. She added that the people cannot make too many demands on her government since the present situation is the cost we have to pay to achieve the democracy to which we all aspire and which must be consolidated with the efforts of all Bolivians. She noted: If you do not want to understand this, if you do not want to follow the rules of the game to achieve the social development of our country, we will be forced to assume full responsibility for the government.

Violence Feared

PY061409 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Nov 79 PY

[Excerpts] The situation in the town of Copacabana took a turn for the worse in the last few hours, because the commissions formed to solve the problem failed to do so and the pilgrims trapped at the shrine decided to resort to force. Our correspondent (Rolando Vizcarra) will now report on further details of this situation. The following is his report directly from Copacabana:

[Begin relay] (Rolando Vizcarra) reporting to Radio Panamericana from Copacabana: This is an emergency report due to the strong request by the neighbors and pilgrims who are in Copacabana, particularly the latter who have been trapped here for 5 days without any way to return to La Paz, at least not by highway. The pilgrims decided to ask Radio Panamericana to categorically refute the interior minister's report over the state television channel in which he alleged that there is tranquility in this town since the trouble initiated through the blocking of the highway from Copacabana to La Paz has been solved. This statement has caused justified indignation among (?the pilgrims), because so far no commission has appeared here and we have not seen any helicopter arriving. The situation of the pilgrims and the whole population of Copacabana is rapidly growing more serious, since the stores remained closed today and provisions are running out as the days go by. There have been several cases of illness, particularly among children, and everything seems to indicate that the problems will become still more grave unless an emergency solution is found within the next few hours.

A defense committee has been organized headed by Col (Claudio Campos) and other subcommittees have also been formed to take care of economic matters, that is, the problems caused by the lack of provisions and lodging, and another resistance subcommittee in charge of planning the defense of Copacabana [words indistinct] from the peasants who are still surrounding the town. At the time of this report there are about 1,500 peasants who have [words indistinct] near the town [words indistinct] a new attack by them. [passage indistinct] In any case, as I have already said, the town is preparing its defense and a clash with unforeseable results is feared. [end relay]

On the other hand, the Single Confederation of Bolivian Peasant Workers has decided to organize another commission at the highest level. It will leave this morning, in view of the failure of other commissions which were sent earlier. Genaro Flores, secretary general of that peasant organization, reported to Radio Panamericana on this new commission, which has the task of solving the problem which has hindered the movement of over 200 people for more than 3 days.

[Begin Flores recording] A commission will go, headed by myself. We also have Father Julio Tumiri, president of the Human Rights Assembly. A comrade, a leader from the town of [name indistinct], will also go with me. We intended to go to the town of Copacabana in order to learn of all the things that have happened in the last few hours. The purpose of our trip is to help the people who are in that town, at the Copacabana shrine, and to cooperate so they can return to La Paz. I will also talk with our peasant comrades who are at the road from La Paz to Copacabana. [end recording]

Father Julio Tumiri Javier, from the Human Rights Assembly and member of the new mission, made an appeal to the peasant class to desist from violant acts to solve once and for all the problem which is being aggravated by the hour in view of the helplessness of the authorities.

The prefect of La Paz Department has expressed concern over reports from Coroico, where groups of drunken peasants attacked some stores and made ready for a clash with the inhabitants of the town. He stressed that this situation would be solved promptly.

Altiplane Roads Blocked

PY061622 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Persons who have listened to our reports on the blocking of roads and highways, particularly in the Copacabana area, have said that similar events have also occurred in the last 4 days in the altiplano regions of Achacachi and Huarina. These persons have had to seek lodgings in La Paz City because of this situation, mainly because they fear violent action on the part of the peasants of the two towns. Other persons have reported that the roadblocks are maintained in Inquisivi Province and in the southern part of La Paz Department, generally known as the lower river region [refers to the lower part of Desaguadero River]. They ask the authorities to take a hand in all these cases, because the blocking is general and affects all movement of vehicles throughout La Paz Department.

Senate Requests Measures

PY061624 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] The Senate is deeply concerned over the acts of violence which are occurring on the Bolivian altiplano as a consequence of the economic measures adopted by the government headed by Mrs Lidia Gueiler Tejado. A document released by the Senate says that the Senate feels profound concern over these events, such as those of Tiquina, Copacabana and Caranavi, which reflect the deep unrest which seems to be rife among the peasants of the country in view of the helplessness of the cabinet and of the ineffective manner in which the problems of prices and marketing of farming products are dealt with.

The document says that the Senate believes that the agrarian policy of the government must be defined most urgently by establishing prices and transport and marketing systems which safeguard the legitimate interests of the farmers throughout the country, interests which have been harmed through the incompetence of former regimes.

The document states that violence should be ended through the elimination of its true causes by protecting the interests of the peasant class and all Bolivian agriculture. The greatest danger to democracy is the helplessness of the present government team whose action is hampered by the lack of clear guidelines to meet the crisis, the document concludes.

Meanwhile, telegrams have arrived reporting that 600 people are stranded on the Cochabamba-La Paz Highway and on the railway without any protection. They request help from the government and the intervention of military or police forces from Oruro City.

COB RESUMES TALKS WITH GOVERNMENT ON ECONOMIC CRISIS

PY070055 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Labor Central [COB] today contributed to easing social tensions and reducing the threat of social clashes by resuming discussions with the government to seek a solution to the nation's acute economic crisis. The COB executive board, led by Juan Lechin Oquendo, met with President Lidia Gueiler at the government palace this afternoon.

LA PAZ NEIGHBORHOODS ARM AGAINST HOODLUMS

PY061713 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] The neighbors of some La Paz districts have decided to defend themselves against gangs of criminals who are committing robberies and looting in several densely populated neighborhoods of the city. Neighbors of the Gran Poder district, famous for its folkloric shows, decided to organize and arm themselves with sticks, cudgels or any other weapon in defense of their property. They reported in the last few hours that gangs of criminals and hoodlums had destroyed the kerosene supply station as well as the medical center of the district.

We believe that these criminals acts should be suppressed with all energy by the Bolivian police. They warrant just and angry protests and are also contradicting expressions of defense of the working class and the hard-hit economy of the people. This situation has occurred in the last few hours in most low-income neighborhoods of the city. The same excesses, always headed by criminal elements, have been reported. It should also be stressed that the decision to provoke clashes, even in defense of one's own property, is illegal. It is, however, a way of pressing the demands on the forces of order to double their efforts to control this situation which is becoming a nightmare.

Other reports have arrived from the satellite city of El Alto, where violent acts took place, requiring the presence of the police force which, however, did not arrive. They also did not appear at (Tumusla) Street, where groups of looters burned down shops.

ITT REPORTS IT WILL CEASE OPERATIONS IN BOLIVIA

PY070201 Paris AFP in Spanish 0050 GMT 7 Dec 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 6 Dec (AFP)--The U.S. multinational company ITT will cease operating in Bolivia in a few weeks, it was reported here today. The ITT headquarters in New York sent a note to its office in La Paz stating that its operations in Bolivia will be terminated and its employees given severance pay. It was reported that ITT has an operating contract with the Bolivian Government which expires in 1982.

MONETARY EXCHANGES SUSPENDED; PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

PY070238 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 7 Dec 79 PY

[Excerpts] Planalto Palace has been keeping secret the details of a speech President Figueiredo will address to the nation tomorrow. It is believed that the highlights of the analysis of the country's situation he will make and the measures he will announce were determined at a meeting he held yesterday morning with his main advisers: Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva, chief of the civilian household; Gen Danilo Venturini, chief of the military household; Gen Otavio Medeiros, chief of the national intelligence service; and Vice President Aureliano Chaves.

In a terse communique, the Central Bank reported this afternoon the suspension until further notice of monetary exchange operations of all types. The communique does not state the reasons for the measure. Planalto Palace sources reported, however, that the measure is designed to prevent any exchange operation in view of the economic changes which will be announced in the next few hours. The Central Bank's decision caused surprise among Rio Grande do Sul businessmen, who noted that the measure affects every type of negotiation involving imports and exports and other operations, such as payment for services and remittance of profits. They said they could not estimate the damage which might result from the measure because they do not know how long it will be in force. In Rio de Janeiro, banking sources speculated on three possible causes behind the Central Bank's decision: The government may be planning to implement a major devaluation of the cruzeiro, the elimination of subsidies for certain imports or changes in the monetary exchange policy.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO TO VISIT CHILE NEXT YEAR

PY052247 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 79 p 4 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--President Joao Figueiredo has decided to visit Chile next year, after his scheduled visit to Argentina in March. His personal decision is not subject to approval by Itamaraty. This decision was made in order to restore the balanced relations Brazil has maintained with Argentina and Chile over the past 17 years, a balance which was threatened by the president's announced visit to Buenos Aires and the possible postponement of his visit to Santiago until a later occasion.

CONGRESS MAKES PROPOSALS TO REGAIN FULL POWERS

PY070240 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Dec 79 p 4 PY

[Editorial: "The Recovery of Power"]

[Excerpts] Now that the question of political party reform has been decided, attention is being focused on another point which is fundamental for advancing the redemocratization process, that is, the recovery by Congress of the privileges and the authority which the simple elimination of revolutionary acts did not reinstate. The truth is that in this first year of political liberalization, Congress still operates under rules and restrictions that came into force during the period of hardening of the regime, when the intention was not only to limit the institutional role of the legislative branch but also to punish Congress for actions considered improper or out of line.

Even before the opposition unleashed its attack against this situation, the ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] forces in Congress took the initiative to correct the anomaly. The presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies coordinated efforts which resulted in a proposal for a constitutional amendment which was prepared by a commission composed of members of both parties. The proposal consists of 14 changes, returning to Congress the power and autonomy it had until 1969.

The privileges to be regained are of a political and administrative nature, since the executive branch went as far as imposing restrictions even on minor actions in the internal operations of both congressional houses. The main points of the proposal are concerned with the unrestricted reinstatement of the inviolability of congressional mandate, the possibility of convening on its own initiative [autoconvocacao], the exercise of other public functions by congressmen, the elimination of the approval of bills submitted by the executive branch through the expedient of setting a deadline after which they are approved without a vote [decurso de prazo], and the elimination of other rules preventing any resistence to or confrontation with the government.

Senator Luis Viana Filho, one of the advocates of the proposal, makes it a point to recall that the proposal is perfectly in line with the determination of President Figueiredo to strengthen the country's democratic institutions. That is to say, the initiative is in accord with the liberalization process, seeking the constructive participation of Congress.

NEW OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTY ESTABLISHED

PY052312 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Dec 79 p 1 PY

[Text] Brazilian Popular Party [PPB--Partido Popular Brasileiro] is the name of the nonradical opposition party formed by Senator Tancredo Neves and Deputy Magalhaes Pinto. The decision was made yesterday by a seven-member commission which was able to overcome a disagreement between a group advocating the name PDB (Brazilian Democratic Party) and another group advocating the name PPP (Party of Popular Participation). The PPB will be organized by Neves, Magalhaes Pinto, Olavo Setubal, Thales Ramalho and Miro Teixeira.

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUAN JUNTA MEMBERS ARRIVE FOR 'UNEXPLAINED' VISIT

PA061512 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Members of the Nicaraguan Government junta and cabinet arrived yesterday evening for a visit of approximately 18 hours to our country. They were greeted by President Rodrigo Carazo, Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey, the deputy foreign minister and other government officials.

The Nicaraguan visitors did not explain the reason for their visit. Cmdr Tomas Borge limited himself to noting: We have come to greet the Costa Rican people. He later admitted that they will meet with President Carazo but noted that they have not come to discuss any specific issues. Regarding the conflict with Honduras, Cmdr Eden Pastora said that there is no major problem with the neighboring country.

Some of the Nicaraguan junta members participated last night in a solidarity rally organized by communist groups in Guadalupe. They also participated in a dinner organized by a Christian businessmen's group. The dinner was held at the Cariari Hotel, where the Nicaraguan authorities are staying. They will hold a news conference this morning at the Costa Rica Hotel. They are scheduled to return to Nicaragua in the afternoon.

Hold News Conference

PA061910 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1528 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Press conference held by Nicaraguan Government officials at the Costa Rica Hotel in San Jose on 6 December 1979--live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Fernando Fernandez, of Channel 13. My question is for Interior Minister Commander Borge. I would like him to discuss the Sandinist National Liberation Front's behavior in its role as the people's army.

[Borge] The Sandinist Peoples Army was born from the people in the heat of the revolutionary war. Basically, it is the people armed with the rifles we seized from the National Guard. In accordance with this, EPS conduct is marked by loyalty, respect and love for the people. This respect, loyalty and love for the people are being taught to our army and our police. We have launched a full-scale campaign aimed at raising this attitude of respect, which our army is obliged to show our people, to its maximum level. With Sandinist and revolutionary honesty we have, nonetheless, admitted that certain abuses were committed in the first days and weeks of the revolution. We have publicly acknowledged this, just as we are willing to acknowledge all abnormal or incorrect situations.

Concerning this, it is timely to point out that a group of individuals who were not really soldiers but worked for the Immigration Department--but then the Immigration Department is somehow integrated into our country's armed forces--entered Costa Rican territory in a festive mood [plan de fiesta] and committed a crime here. As soon as we learned of this matter we got in touch with the Costa Rican authorities to tell them we were ashamed of the behavior of those companeros and to ask them to let the full weight of Costa Rican justice fall on those who had violated this sister country's laws. I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to say we are indignant over the conduct of those individuals which, nonetheless, represents a completely isolated situation that does not reflect the general behavior of either our army, our government or our people, who feel great respect and gratitude toward the Costa Rican people.

[Indistinct question concerning the current Honduran-Nicaraguan situation]

[Presumably Borge] There has not really been a situation that might be described as a military confrontation or anything like that. There have been a few sporadic incidents that have not really disrupted the harmonious relations we seek to maintain with the Honduran people and government. Foreign Minister D'Escoto could expand on this matter.

[D'Escoto] I would not say the situation is tense. True, there have been certain problems, but they are not the result of any government policy and we are sure they are not due to any political decision by either the Honduran Government or army. We realize that certain Honduran elements are interested in destabilizing our revolutionary process. However, this is something they will never be able to do. Besides, that is in total opposition to their government's policy.

Nevertheless, as these incidents have been occurring repeatedly, we are intent upon seeing what we in Nicaragua can do. We have been holding talks with our Honduran brothers to see what they can do so that these incidents do not become exaggerated by the communications media. That would be totally counterproductive because a totally artificial climate of tension would be created among the people. We sincerely hope that good will on both sides will make it possible to overcome all these problems.

I am leaving for Guatemala this afternoon and will later visit Honduras and El Salvador. We believe that my visit to Honduras will be of great assistance in establishing and maintaining the dialog needed to overcome these small problems which, as I have already said, are not real problems, but artificial ones created by the enemies of our revolution.

Meet With Carazo

PA070345 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Dec 79 PA

[Text] At a meeting this afternoon President Rodrigo Carazo and the visiting members of the Nicaraguan junta analyzed topics of common political, economic and social interest.

The governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua expressed concern for the reorganization of the Central American Common Market as soon as possible. This was evidenced during the meeting between President Carazo and the Nicaraguan junta members. They agreed on the need to create a high-level commission to seek formulas for joint actions to effect its reorganization and revise all Central American tariff treaties. The idea of creation of this high-level commission is to provide the upcoming meeting of Central American economy ministers, to be held in Managua in January, with sufficient information on such formulas.

The two governments agreed to coordination in the border area in order to avoid problems among residents of that sector. In this respect, Cmdr Eden Pastora and Deputy Economy Minister Enrique Montealegre are drafting an operations plan for the area. Costa Rica announced its support for the efforts being made by U.S. Under secretary of State Viron Vaky to obtain a $75-million loan for Nicaragua from international financing organizations to help that country solve its numerous financial and development problems.

Leave for Panama

PA070348 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The members of the Nicaraguan junta left a few minutes ago for Panama after discussing with the Costa Rican president and other government officials issues related to the Central American Common Market, foreign policy and other topics of common interest to the two countries.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Calderon Fournier had the following statement to make on the visit of the Nicaraguan officials:

[Begin Calderon recording] Several members of the Nicaraguan governing junta paid a visit to Costa Rica today. It was not a state visit but the result of an invitation extended to them by a group of U.S. Christians who were greatly interested in talking with them and who offered their assistance and cooperation to Nicaragua.

Taking advantage of the presence of the high-ranking officials of the Nicaraguan Government, we held a meeting along with President Rodrigo Carazo to discuss generally the Central American situation, specifically the Central American Common Market, the ideas of the Nicaraguan governing junta members about that topic, and also to express to them our concern for the possibility of achieving reorganization of the common market in the upcoming meeting of economy ministers. We also broached political matters in the area and the problem between Honduras and Nicaragua. In this respect Nicaragua expressed its special interest in having the best possible relations with all nations of the area, and its conviction that mutual respect must prevail in international relations. They also expressed their willingness to solve any differences with any of the Central American nations. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

NICARAGUAN MISSION ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT, TALKS

PA061539 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1808 GMT 5 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--An official Nicaraguan mission arrived in San Salvador today and met with the government junta at the presidential house. The return of planes, barges and weapons brought into El Salvador by Somozist soldiers in the wake of the Sandinist victory in July was discussed at the meeting. The visiting delegation includes Leopoldo Rivas, chief of the Sandinist Peoples Army general staff; Attorney General Ernesto Castillo; Air Force chief Raul Venerio; Air Force officer Agustin Roman; Ambassador to El Salvador Francisco Quinonez and adviser Aldo Diaz Lacayo. During its recent visit to Nicaragua, the Salvadoran Government junta offered to return the equipment brought in by the Somozists.

FPL ISSUES DEMAND FOR RELEASE OF S. AFRICAN AMBASSADOR

PA061755 Paris AFP in Spanish 1723 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Dec (AFP)--The dissemination of an analysis on the Salvadoran situation in newspapers and radio stations throughout the world was raised today by the clandestine Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) as the sole condition for releasing kidnaped South African Ambassador Archibald Dunn. The demand was contained in a document delivered to Salvadoran communications media, although the contents of the document the FPL wants publicized is not yet known. Neither the Salvadoran Government nor the South African Embassy here have issued a statement regarding the FPL's demand.

Threat To Kill Ambassador

PA070100 Paris AFP in Spanish 0049 GMT 7 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Dec (AFP)--The Salvadoran Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) tonight threatened to kill South African Ambassador Archibald Dunn if their demand to publish two of their documents in 102 countries is not met.

FPL BURNS SIX LIGHT PLANES IN COTTON MILL PROTEST

PA061615 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0056 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Members of the clandestine Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) today set fire to six light planes in Santa Cruz Porrillo, some 73 km east of San Salvador. Losses have been estimated at $200,000. In a communique, the FPL said that it carried out the attack to protest the eviction of strikers from the Entre Rios cotton mill. Police used tear gas to dislodge over 500 workers who were demanding salary increases after having urged them to vacate the plant owned by the Salvadoran cotton cooperative. Meanwhile, a campaign to destabilize the government that seized power on 15 October is gathering momentum.

BPR, FAPU STAGE INCIDENTS IN SAN SALVADOR

PA061456 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2108 GMT 5 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 5 Dec (LATIN)--Approximately 3,000 members of the leftist Peoples Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) organized a demonstration today to demand salary increases and the freezing of staple prices. Simultaneously, some 25 masked and armed members of the United Popular Action Front (FAPU), another leftwing group, blocked traffic in Cuscatancingo, a northern San Salvador suburb, and for 15 minutes instructed passersby on how to use firearms and manufacture homemade bombs. Police reported that the gunmen escaped in a bus before police arrived. The BPR demonstrators assembled peacefully in the central marketplace and shouted asking the civilian-military junta that seized power on 15 October to accede to their demands.

HONDURAS

NICARAGUA REPORTEDLY APOLOGIZES FOR BORDER INCIDENT

PA061603 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1427 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--According to a report circulating here, the Nicaraguan Government has apologized to Honduras for a shooting incident in Honduran territory on Tuesday that involved troops from both countries. The local newspaper LA PRENSA reported today that Sergio Ramirez Mercado, a member of the Nicaraguan reconstruction junta, apologized by telephone to Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso.

The paper claims to have received the information directly from Foreign Minister Perez Cadalso, who appeared pleased because Ramirez Mercado had assured him that everything possible was being done to solve existing problems with Honduras. Ramirez Mercado also confirmed that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto would visit Tegucigalpa on Friday to hold talks with high-ranking Honduran Government officials and resolve existing differences. "D'Escoto's visit," the Honduran foreign minister said, "will serve to moderate the situation at a time when the temperature between the two states is high."

Relations between Honduras and Nicaragua have been tense for the past 6 weeks after Nicaraguan diplomats had difficulties with the Honduran police, who confiscated weapons and ammunition that the Nicaraguans were carrying in vehicles that did not have diplomatic license plates. In addition, there have been brushes between border patrols of both countries that have even led to an exchange of fire. It was announced in Managua yesterday that a Sandinist soldier had been killed in the latest border confrontation.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSES NICARAGUA OF ARMED 'PROVOCATION'

PA070331 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1902 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Dec (LATIN)--The Honduran Government officially announced that in its accusation presented to the OAS today it said that the border incident Tuesday between Honduran and Nicaraguan soldiers was an "evident provocation." According to the accusation, the incident occurred when Nicaraguan troops entered Honduran territory at a site called Palo Verde.

The Honduran protest note was presented to OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila and notes that "although the incident involves a new and evident provocation, Honduras will make every effort to maintain unchanged the climate of understanding and tolerance" existing between the two countries. The accusation says there were no casualties among the Honduran soldiers but that reports from Managua say that a Nicaraguan soldier was killed. This is the latest in a series of border incidents between the forces of the two countries.

Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso said he will meet tomorrow with his Nicaraguan colleague, Father Miguel D'Escoto, who arrives in Honduras after visiting Guatemala as part of a tour of the Central American countries. Perez Cadalso said that the interview will serve to cool "the high temperature" affecting relations between the two countries.

NICARAGUA

U.S. VETERANS LEADERS TO MAKE 4-DAY VISIT

PA070139 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Two U.S. veterans group leaders will arrive in Nicaragua Sunday for a 4-day visit. They are Howard Vance (Klut), commander in chief of U.S. war veterans, and Cooper Hall, executive director of veterans in Washington. They had asked the Nicaraguan Government for permission to make the visit. The Nicaraguan authorities replied that there was no obstacle to their visit. They will meet with government and army leaders during their visit to see how the Sandinist people's revolution is developing.

CUBAN TECHNICIANS TO ASSIST IN FISHING INDUSTRY

PA062111 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1915 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Cuban technicians have arrived in Nicaragua at the request of the unta of the Government of National Reconstruction to assist in a program for organization and development of the fishing industry. Andres Mena, director of science and technology of the Cuban Fish Industry Ministry, told newsmen today that the delegation he heads will remain in Nicaragua for approximately 3 weeks to determine basic needs in the area and will subsequently submit a report. The group of Cubans, accompanied by officials and technicians of the Nicaraguan Natural Resources and Environment Institute, have begun visits to ports on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua to observe fishing activities. Mena said he has observed that small fishermen are facing difficult social conditions, particularly at Morazan port, "which will have to be resolved as the first step toward preparing them for assimilation of techniques."

PAPER CRITICIZES PROPONENTS OF 'SERVILISM' TOWARD USSR

PA062238 Managua EL PUEBLO in Spanish 30 Nov 79 p 2 PA

[By Emilio Reyes]

[Text] Routinely one hears the voices of those who were not present during the armed struggle against the imperialist regime. These voices try to justify their indecision in fulfilling their democratic and anti-imperialist duties and try to pretend that the incorporation of a few of their members into the armed struggle was a great contribution to the final battle. However, now these sectors are criticizing the government's international policies.

They do not criticize these policies out of concern over the premature welcome given to the Salvadoran junta, which ordered bloody repression of Salvadoran revolutionaries. Neither do they come out in favor of better implementation of our fully independent and self-determining foreign policy that would allow us to develop our revolution, which day by day must define more and more its characteristics in favor of power in the hands of the workers and peasants.

The critics demand that Nicaragua become something like another republic of the USSR. For these strident voices, the most important thing after the defeat of the puppet imperialist regime is not the fact that measures have been taken against the imperialist monopolies and that we have reduced our foreign trade and finance from their clutches, nor the fact that Nicaragua now has relations with many more countries; for these voices the most important matter is that we have established relations with the USSR.

But do not think they limit themselves to speaking. When the National University of Nicaragua [UNAN] organized and mobilized the masses against Somozism, these dissident voices even organized schools to teach Russian. Now, even though they were simply politicians who went abroad to try to modify the membership of the government junta in favor of the bourgeoisie, these same sectors say that the government and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] should automatically approve anything the USSR says or does.

We are fully in favor of socialism and Marxism-Leninism and are irreconciliable enemies of Yankee imperialism. Some people believe that the USSR is a model for the building of socialism and the most important socialist country in the workd, which is debatable because there are persons who claim that the USSR no longer follows the Leninist path. However, the claim that the building of socialism is not limited to establishing relations with that country and developing a policy of unity and friendship with that country, but involves unconditional submission to the USSR, is traitorous servilism.

What is more, these voices who criticize the government and the FSLN cannot exply why the USSR has remained silent, even when Cuba made an appeal to all countries to compete in aiding our people.

FIR TO RENEGOTIATE FOREIGN DEBT LEFT BY SOMOZA

PA070250 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Members of the International Reconstruction Fund [FIR] will review procedures to renegotiate the $1.54 billion foreign debt left by Somoza. This foreign debt is owed to multilateral organizations, governments and commercial banks, FIR Executive Director Alfredo Cesar has stated. Regarding the multilateral organizations, he said that an agreement has been reached whereby the government will make net payments.

Regarding the debt owed to governments, he reported that talks are being held to agree on a way to renegotiate it. The foreign debts to governments include that owed to Spain, in which Nicaragua will only recognize the funds used to purchase public works equipment being used by the Transportation Ministry. The government will not pay the debts contracted by El Chiguin [Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero] or the funds used to purchase the weapons used by Somoza's genocidal guard. Regarding the debts owed to commercial banks, the FIR officials will meet in Mexico on 14 December to appoint a committee which will renegotiate the debts.

INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS ACCEPT 25-PERCENT WAGE CUT

PA070225 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Statement by Interior Ministry officials; date not specified--read by announcer]

[Text] To the members of the national reconstruction government junta and the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]: Companeros: We are sending you the statement issued by the officials and those responsible for agencies of the Interior Ministry regarding a new wage policy. We have decided in this ministry to fulfill the principle of austerity proclaimed by our revolutionary government. The text of the statement is as follows:

The officials, those responsible and the assistants of agencies of the Interior Ministry headed by our commander of the revolution and minister, Companero Tomas Borge, and our guerrilla commander and deputy minister, Companero Eden Pastora, whereas:

The country is facing a difficult socioeconomic situation as a result of the previous corrupt and genocidal administration.

We must subject ourselves to an overall austerity which will benefit the economy of our revolutionary country.

All Nicaraguans committed to the Sandinist struggle should participate in this sublime principle of austerity in these historic moments of our revolutionary people after the victorious Sandinist insurrection.

All those responsible and the assistants of the various agencies, the chiefs of the administrative offices and other ministry officials have decided to accept a 20-25 percent reduction in our salaries to help the principle of austerity. We also state that prior to the publication of the decree issued by you on the 13th month bonus, the Interior Ministry personnel had agreed to donate this bonus to the employment fund, which will decisively help Sandino's people, giving jobs to the large number of unemployed people who are confident that our revolutionary government and the FSLN will be successful in this task as long as they have the effort and understanding of the heroic Nicaraguan people.

Fraternally, free fatherland or death. Interior Ministry.

CDS REORGANIZATION ACHIEVED IN ATLANTIC AREA, GRANADA

Atlantic Divided in Two Zones

PA062032 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The Atlantic coast has been divided into two zones to facilitate the organization of Sandinist Defense Committees (CDS). Luis Morrison, Zelaya Department's delegate to the national CDS Coordination Commission, explained today that CDS organization in that area is quite advanced even though the CDS have not yet been consolidated.

Zelaya has been divided into northern and southern sectors in order to assist CDS organization. State Organization Secretary Companero Pedro Ortiz, Propaganda and Political Education Secretary Noel Escobar and Mass Organizations Secretary Virginia Cordero are in charge of southern Zelaya. Northern Zelaya will be directed by Companeras Glenda Monterrey and Rosario Bravo.

At present, there are 38 CDS in Bluefields, and 16 CDS on 15 December will form the municipal and departmental councils. Six Zelaya representatives have been included in the National CDS Coordination Commission. In that area the CDS have engaged in communal works such as repairing streets, rebuilding parks and constructing schools. A bridge will also be built in Pancasan neighborhood with the aid of the Zelaya departmental junta.

Eighty CDS in Granada

PA062036 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Eighty Sandinist Defense Committees (CDS) have been organized so far in Granada Department. The departmental council will be formed on 15 December. According to Granada CDS representative to the National Coordination Commission Companero Fernando Rivas Castillo, CDS organization in that department has been somewhat delayed by the purges underway in a number of municipalities, such as Diriomo and Diria. In certain rural sectors, he added, the farm workers association is in charge of organizing the CDS. CDS activities in Granada are most evident in the department's outlying areas, where streets are being repaired and sports activities are being encouraged.

NATIONAL CDS COORDINATION GOALS, ORIGINS EXPLAINED

PA061756 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Dec 79 PA

[Text] National coordination was thoroughly explained at a meeting held this morning with the companeros who are responsible for coordinating the national Sandinist Defense Committees (CDS). This organization includes two delegates from each department. Carazo representative Esperanza Cardena, Managua's Ronald Paredes, Granada's Fernando Rivas Castillo and Ramon Alberto Baez, from Madriz, will now explain to our listeners the origin and purpose of CDS coordination. [begin recording]

[First unidentified speaker] National CDS coordination resulted from the need to create an effective organization to politically and organizationally promote, evaluate and develop the CDS on a national scale.

[Cardenas] The Coordination Commission represents all CDS at the national level and includes two delegates from each department. They are the most representative of the companeros in each CDS. Orientations at the national level emanating from this central organization are transmitted through this organization. [sentence as heard]

[Second unidentified speaker] The importance of this coordination is such that it has enabled us to consolidate, speed up and structure the CDS along a single national line. As a result, in the 1 and 1/2 months since this coordinating commission was integrated 10 departments have already been consolidated. They have already reached their maximum structure, the departmental council.

[Third unidentified speaker] Its (?objectives) are to promote and advance all national tasks and campaigns. This is helping us resolve our production and social development problem while we try to solve our most pressing problems--such as health, housing and education--and our efforts to improve the organizational levels that exist in Nicaragua.

[Question] Does the National Coordination C mmission include departmental officials only?

[Unidentified speaker] The National Coordination Commission includes two individuals elected by the rank and file organizations in each department. These rank and file organizations number three in Managua--two from Managua municipality and one from the remaining municipalities. [end recording]

HEALTH, EDUCATION TO RECEIVE PRIORITY IN BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

PA062000 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 29 Nov 79 pp 1, 8 PA

[Text] Budget Director Gen Franklin Perez has informed BARRICADA that the areas of health and education will receive the largest allocations in the 1980 budget. Preliminary estimates indicate that operating expenses in the area of health could amount to 779 million cordobas, without including initial investments. The estimates set operating expenses for education at 702 million cordobas. However, the 16 ministries and other autonomous bodies will not present their draft budgets for 1980 until 16 December.

The General Budget Directorate is issuing new guidance as to the direction and meaning that each ministry or other government agency should give to their budgets. The agencies have been asked to avoid increased requests for personnel expenses as much as possible and to avoid creating unauthorized or unnecessary positions.

These measures, as will be noted, are designed to counter the excessive and unnecessary bureaucracy that was traditional in the disastrous era of the dictatorship. In other words, the budgetary objective should be the necessary and rational use of funds. The General Budget Directorate has also instructed government organizations to reassign personnel on the basis of their abilities in order to achieve a better utilization of their skills.

However, the measure does not apply to teaching posts, since one of the basic objectives of our Sandinist revolution is that there be more teachers than any other kind of professional personnel to allow our children and our people to receive the education that was long denied them by an inhumane and exploitative system.

COFFEE ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR DISCUSSES IMPORTANCE OF HARVEST

PA061340 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Dec 79 pp 1, 10 PA

[By Pedro J. Chamorro]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive interview with LA PRENSA, Jose Antonio Baltodano, director of the Nicaraguan Coffee Enterprise (ENCAFE) said Nicaragua depends to a great extent on the sale of coffee to obtain foreign currency. The interview developed in the following manner:

[Question] What percentage of foreign currency earned by Nicaragua comes from the sale of coffee?

[Answer] This year, because cotton could not be planted in the same amount as in previous years, and since the coffee plantations were not damaged by the war of liberation, we expect to sell some $280 million worth of coffee. This represents some 85 percent of the country's total foreign currency earnings.

[Question] How much tax have you collected from the sale of coffee?

[Answer] Well, so far we have collected little. The harvest has not been sold yet. However, once we have exported the 1.2 million quintals programmed for export, and assuming we sell at an average of $190 a quintal, we should collect 294 million cordobas. This will be the largest amount of tax collected in Nicaragua from coffee sales. We believe that we have reached this amount without including all agricultural exports.

[Question] Has coffee productivity been good?

[Answer] No. Nicaragua has one of the lowest rates of coffee production per manazana in Central America. We produce some 8 to 10 quintals of coffee per manzana, but we could easily duplicate our production by merely reaching certain production "cultural levels." The small farmer has the lowest production rate and is most in need of technical advice.

[Question] How has the small producer benefited from the new method of marketing coffee directly through ENCAFE and eliminating middlemen?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, the small coffee producer has benefited the most with the marketing changes introduced in Nicaragua. Previously, the exporter bought from the processor, who in turn bought from the middleman, who bought from the farmer. There were too many people involved and the farmer's profits were reduced considerably. Today we transfer the price paid abroad directly to the farmer minus the cost of transportation, processing and administration. We have opened 62 rural agencies in outlying communities in order to be near the small producer. This will not only benefit the farmer but will also bring him into the nation's financial system. The rural agencies are located near banking agencies for this reason.

[Question] Is it true that a considerable part of the coffee crop has been lost because of a lack of manpower and other irregularities in the coffee producing regions?

[Answer] Well, I believe things have been somewhat exaggerated. Some has been lost, but it has been only two percent of the total production. In Jinotega, Nueva Segovia and Madriz the manpower problem has been solved.

[Question] What is the value of the coffee that has been lost and how has the manpower problem been overcome?

[Answer] The two percent loss of the harvest represents some 48 million cordobas. The farm workers association has cooperated extensively to overcome the manpower shortage and has used the radio to call its members. The Sandinist Peoples Army has also cooperated greatly by bringing order to certain areas such as Jinotega and Nueva Segovia, where there had been a great deal of disorder and many vehicles had been confiscated arbitrarily. These vehicles were used to transport coffee. The army has brought order and the farmer feels safer because now he can carry his coffee without fear of being deprived of the vehicle.

[Question] One last question. What percentage of the world's exportable coffee is produced by Nicaragua and how does our production compare with El Salvador's and Costa Rica's?

[Answer] Nicaragua produces some 1.2 million quintals. This represents 1.5 percent of the world's exportable harvest. This is one-third of El Salvador's production. It produces 4.8 million quintals despite the fact that Nicaragua is five times larger than El Salvador. Costa Rica produces some 2 million quintals for export. That is nearly double Nicaragua's production. This shows that in spite of depending almost exclusively on coffee to earn foreign currency, our production is very poor in comparison with other Central American countries.

BRIEFS

CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS--Companero Roberto Lacayo, deputy minister of planning of the Settlements and Housing Ministry, attended the Latin American conference on human settlements sponsored by the economic commission for Latin America in Mexico last week. At the conference, Nicaragua presented a proposal for the establishment of a subregional training center. Its proposal was unanimously approved. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Nov 79 PA]

RURAL CREDIT PROGRAM--Small cattle ranchers, basic grain producers, small enterprises, fishermen and small rural enterprises will benefit in the next 2 years from a financing program to be implemented by the National Development Bank with a loan from the Inter-American Development Bank. So said Gustavo Narvaez, head of the rural credit department of the National Bank. The new loans will earn 11 percent interest. The previous interest rate was 14 percent, plus a commission which was stolen by Somozist bankers. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Nov 79 PA]

BEAN CONSUMPTION--A spokesman of the national supplies enterprise has reported that farmworkers are consuming most of the beans coming into the country. He said the beans imported from Argentina, Guatemala and other Latin American countries are being sent to the areas where there are a large number of farmworkers involved in production tasks. This is the reason for the bean shortage in Managua and other cities. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Nov 79 PA]

SUGAR MILL VISITED--Government junta member Sergio Ramirez and Cmdr Jaime Wheelock last Sunday visited Cukra Hill to dedicate the Camilo Ortega Saavedra sugar mill. The mill's 1,500 cultivated manzanas produce 70,000 tons of sugar cane every 150 days and employ over 600 locals. The mill also provides electricity to Cukra Hill and its managers are contemplating several projects aimed at preventing unemployment in the area. After their visit to the sugar mill, Ramirez and Wheelock visited other local sites, and learned about the area's problems as well as its post-revolutionary achievements. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Nov 79 PA]

FIRE DEPARTMENT PLACEMENT--Nicaragua's Fire Department became part of the Interior Ministry yesterday. It is now regarded as an organization designed to protect state security. Companero Cairo Pena was left in charge of the department at the Interior Ministry. He will represent the ministry on the firemen's technical commission. The technical commission includes (Yader) Aviles for the western region, Armengol Martinez for the southern region, Abraham Enrique Castillo for the northern region, Teodoro (Tefel) for the central region and Henry Campos for the eastern region. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Nov 79 PA]

SESAME FIRM CREATED--During a news conference held yesterday, Foreign Trade Ministry officials disclosed the creation of the sesame firm within the National Cotton Enterprise [ENAL]. They said the ministry is dutybound to seek adequate means to secure more revenue. The sesame firm will insure that profits earned by small producers will reach them without going through middlemen, who used to exploit them. The firm also insures that farmers are paid the minimum price of 230 cordobas per quintal for sesame. They also announced that 50,000 manzanas of sesame will be grown next year since it will bring between $9 and $10 million in revenue. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Nov 79 PA]

WORKERS DISMISSED--Workers Front leader Santiago Espinoza has told EL PUEBLO that 70 farm workers were fired from the state-owned San Jose, Apante and Ascualpa farms by Farmworkers Association leaders because they belonged to the Workers Front. The sugarcane harvest will begin at those farms on 15 December and a labor shortage exists already. Espinoza said that the workers were told they will be rehired when the harvest begins. [Managua EL PUEBLO in Spanish 1 Dec 79 p 1 PA]

NATIONAL CEREMONY MARKS CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' DAY

Televison Reportage

FL052150 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service, channel 6 only, in Spanish at 2051 GMT on 5 December begins [live coverage, from Regla's flour mill in the Havana City port area, of the national ceremony commemorating Construction Workers' Day.]

Black-and-white television coverage opens with an unidentified television announcer setting the scene of the ceremony. After this, several construction workers are interviewed on their activities in the construction sector and on the Regla flour mill. Following the interviews at 2101 GMT the television announcer begins describing the flour mill and other important construction projects in Havana, including the Palace of Conventions, schools, sewer system and housing units. The television cameras continue panning the audience and show sights of the flour mill. The backdrop of the dais shows a portrait of the national hero Armando Mestre, to the viewers' left, and a slogan "We Must Demand Higher Quality in Building Materials and Construction." After describing the new flour mill, the television announcer goes on to report on construction projects for the future.

At 2122 GMT Fidel Castro is seen approaching the dais along with Julio Camacho Aguilera, party first secretary in Havana City Province. They are given a standing ovation by the audience. At 2124 GMT the national anthem is played. Television announcer Manolo Ortega goes to the podium at 2125 GMT to set the scene of the national ceremony. He goes on to say that Commander in Chief Fidel Castro is presiding over this ceremony, along with other members of the PCC Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee, state and party officials, leaders of mass organizations and other guests. The four national construction work heroes are present along with an Ethiopian delegation headed by engineer Kassas, Ethiopian minister of labor.

At 2128 GMT Ortega announces that Pedro Fernandez, head of the construction trade union will make a few remarks to the audience. Fernandez goes to the podium and congratulates Havana City Province construction workers for having won the national construction emulation for 1979, and reviews the work done this past year. He concludes his remarks at 2137 GMT.

At 2138 GMT Ortega says that Commander in Chief Fidel Castro will present the first place emulation banner to the secretary general of Havana City Province construction workers. The second and third place banners are also presented by Fidel to the Villa Clara and Matanzas [provinces] respectively. A delegation of pioneers who won construction emulation are also awarded by Fidel. Following this, construction school graduates receive their certificates. Three students receive the certificates in representation of all students. Then Fidel presents the Armando Mestre 25-year certificate to a representative of all workers with 25 years or more of service.

At 2142 GMT Ramiro Valdes is introduced to make the closing remarks at this ceremony. He begins speaking at 2143 GMT.

Ramiro Valdes Speech

FL052304 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2143 GMT 5 Dec 79 FL

[Speech by PCC Politburo member Ramiro Valdes at the commemoration of Construction Workers' Day in a ceremony held at Regla's flour mills, located in the Guanabacoa Cove in the port of Havana--live]

[Text] Comrade Fidel, comrades on the dais, representatives of the veteran construction workers with 25 or more years of service, dear comrade construction workers:

Today we celebrate with immense joy Construction Workers' day at this new project [flour mill] of the revolution which is the pride of its builders and all the people, a project that is an example of how much we have advanced, how much we can do and a manifestation of the proletarian, militant and heroic spirit of our worthy men and women of the white hardhats.

Fidel's presence at this ceremony is an extraordinary incentive for all construction workers. It represents the recognition and tribute of our party, our government and all the people to the hard workers of the construction sector, the producers of the construction materials industry and our professionals and technicians. It represents a powerful incentive to continue to perform with revolutionary tenacity and morality the honorable task of advancing on the front lines of the working class and paving the way for the economic, educational, cultural and social development of our homeland.

As a result of this trust and incentive, our construction workers' response to Fidel cannot be anything but a revolutionary commitment to be increasingly more efficient, produce more and with better quality and save more at all the country's projects with the same spirit of offensive that has been displayed at the construction of this industry and other fundamental investments of our economy this year.

We must say on this 5 December that despite our material limitations and the deficiencies which we must continue to fight without rest, the construction workers have reached their day with important achievements and successes.

It was not easy to determine which province should host this ceremony. As you know, this honor is granted to the province that has done the best overall work in construction and in the production of construction materials. Several provinces excelled the others, especially Havana City, Villa Clara and Matanzas which competed for the honor in a hard-fought emulation. In the end, it was decided that the best work nationally had been done by Havana City and that Villa Clara and Matanzas should hold second and third places, respectively.

We should wholeheartedly congratulate the construction workers of the capital, Villa Clara and Matanzas for their noteworthy efforts. The work done by construction workers of Pinar del Rio also deserves mention. All of them have become an inspiring example to make the workers in our [construction] sector in the rest of the country advance even more. We are certain that the number of outstanding provinces will increase every year and it will be increasingly difficult to win or maintain the position achieved.

It also was decided that from among all the important projects completed in Havana City, this flour mill should host this ceremony. The builders of this mill have performed a real feat in response to the call of Comrade Fidel. As a result of their extraordinary effort, it was possible to complete and put these mills into operation a year ahead of time. And it was achieved without affecting the quality of the installation.

Accelerating the completion of this industry was an economic necessity for our country. These mills represent one of the principal projects in the industrialization program established by the first party congress, and the resources required for their completion were provided although some plans were negatively affected by a scarcity of resources. Here we had no other limitation except our own ability to organize a maximum construction effort.

It was possible and important to advance this project, along with other similar installations like the one built recently near Cienfuegos Bay.

This plant will annually produce almost 141,000 metric tons of flour, 34,600 [presumably metric tons] of groats and more than 44,000 byproducts. [all figures as heard]

To have an idea of its economic value, it is enough to say that in the latter alone, in other words, byproducts, the country will save about $5 million in imports for livestock feed production every year. Thus, in just a few years we will have recovered in these goods alone the total value of the investment made [for this plant] which is about 25 million pesos.

Works such as this one which strengthen our economy, create new jobs, represent well-being for the people, reduce imports and eliminate considerable foreign exchange expenditures, are of extraordinary significance for the country's progress.

For this victory, which is a triumph of the spirit of work, revolutionary awareness and sense of responsibility of our working class, we want to express our deepest gratitude to the workers of Brigade 18 of the Havana City Industrial Works enterprise, [applause] to the builders of architectural projects, [applause] to the members of the Armando Mestre contingent and all the other workers, technicians and officials who have participated in the construction of this extremely modern industry.

We recall Comrade Fidel's visit to this place in April of last year. We recall his words to the workers who then were working on the foundations for the mills and silos. He told them that this plant would be a monument to work, the revolution and socialism. It is a monument that reaffirms our conviction that our working class is capable of all types of heroism and we must depend on it as a decisive force to overcome all the difficulties we now face and come out victorious.

However, the capital's construction workers have other achievements to show. By the end of the year, the province will have completed its production plan in value by 106 percent. Important industrial works have been completed, such as Antillana de Acero [steel mill] expansion projects, the San Jose prefabricated elements plant, the corrugated cardboard plant and the Conrado Benitez cables factory. Twenty-two prominent works were completed for the nonalined countries sixth summit conference. These include the Palace of Conventions, the Triton Hotel, expansion and modernization of Jose Marti Airport, completion of the National Theater and others. Prominent among other social projects are the Central Pioneers Palace, several urban secondary schools and the Frank Pais hospital.

There have been considerable increases in the production of construction materials and in work on water projects, roads and other important areas of construction in the capital.

In Villa Clara we completed the enormous textile mill for 60 million square meters of fabrics annually. It was inaugurated by Fidel on 2 December. That factory, whose completion was advanced 1 year thanks to the unselfish work of its builders and support of the people in general, is one of the most important investments of the 5-year period [1976-80] and undoubtedly will become a significant source of revenue and increased foreign exchange for this country.

To have an idea of the development of construction work, this year we will reach a national total production of approximately 1.1 billion pesos, almost 800 million more than we produced in 1970. This represents 94 percent completion of the plan.

From this production, about 255 million will be in industrial works in keeping with the established policy of giving priority to those investments that have an important and immediate effect on import substitution, an increase in the country's exportable goods and, at the same time, insure foreign supplies. [as heard]

This year we will complete 91 percent of the industrial investments plan. It is a good rate, given the status of supplies and difficult circumstances that our economy is experiencing as a result of the world's crisis situation. However, in no way should we feel satisfied with what has been achieved. We can and must achieve more and we must, above all, make sure that we perform not only in terms of values but also in terms of completed projects delivered to the workers so that they can put them into production for the people. This is a fundamental indicator which should speak of the efficiency and responsibility of our construction organizations.

The estimate of industrial works to be completed this year totals 67, not including 15 new collection and preprocessing centers. They include plants for machine-building, basic construction materials, food and light industries.

In the education area, 174 installations will be completed, representing more than 113,000 new facilities for the various levels of the national education system and child care centers. In agricultural-livestock works, the estimate of completion is 214 [works] for the poultry, porcine, cattle and other sectors. Twenty new health centers also will be completed throughout the country. They include hospitals, polyclinics, dental clinics and homes for the elderly and handicapped. In the same manner, 112 social works will be completed such as hotels, movie theaters, supermarkets, sports and cultural installations. Work is continuing on important lines of communication, highways, railways, waterworks, maritime projects and other fundamental investments to strengthen and consolidate the economic base.

The production of construction materials, which has grown extraordinarily in recent years, has experienced several difficulties in 1979 largely due to our foreign exchange limitations which force us to reduce imports of lumber, aluminum and other components. Along with this, we have had various problems in branches of the [construction] industry, especially in the principal one--cement--where there was a [production] plan of 3 million tons and we have an estimate of 2.66 million tons.

These problems, logically, affect our construction capabilities and above all else the housing sector and the other architectural projects which demand a greater quantity of imported resources. A truly noteworthy example which we have to point out here forcefully is that in the midst of this adverse international situation which affects the economy, our workers, technicians and people in the construction [sector] have been able to show results such as we have listed. This not only deals with volume, but also the complexity of our construction projects.

Suffice it to tour an industry such as this [flour mill] or the Santa Clara textile mill to have an idea of the qualitative development of construction in our homeland. Projects of this complexity were never built in the past. When some were built, it was necessary to bring in engineers, technicians and skilled workers from abroad. Today we are able to build them ourselves, and to build them well. Today we can count on a new army of skilled workers and midlevel and university level technicians. Today we have management cadres who have experience, enthusiasm and energy to carry out the most difficult and demanding endeavors.

Today we have machinery, techniques, modern prefabricated systems and other resources which create the basis to achieve incomparably higher productivity then we had before.

We have progressed a lot but we cannot shut our eyes to the reality that we still have limitations and deficiencies. It is up to us alone to eliminate them. The degree to which we can and should progress in the field of improving quality and economic efficiency is incalculable. A clear example of this is the work of rationing which is being carried by the Giron industrial and agricultural-livestock construction systems.

The Giron system of rationing has meant a reduction in the number of prefabricated elements from 947 to 292. It is easy to see that this reduction can lead to savings and an increase in productivity. Another task carried out is the categorization of industrial and other types of projects and the establishment of national standards for quality of materials, projects and the main operations in construction projects. This work has to be tirelessly continued and deepened.

Now we are facing in 1980 work which is much more important because of the battle for discipline, organization and strict compliance with duty. Today our people know that we will have a difficult year for our economy. This means that our resources of freely convertible currency will not allow us to maintain the same rate of construction achieved over the past few years because we will not be able to count on the necessary volume of imports of materials, equipment and other goods for completing projects. We will be forced to cut back the construction program. We will begin only those economically and socially unpostponeable projects, focusing on a more limited number of investments, those which have all the guarantees that they can be quickly completed and which will immediately enter production. We will even have to painfully cut back the programs for schools, hospitals and child care centers in which we had established satisfactory levels of construction.

As regards housing, which is one of the simplest problems of greatest social importance, we will maintain [the level of construction] making a great effort to maintain the levels achieved up to now. And we will continue working on the planned program to set the top priorities for the next 5-year period in housing construction, arriving and stabilizing at an annual rate of no less than 6,000 housing units.

In view of this sitation, we are searching for and will apply the advisable measures to continue finding solutions to the needs of our people. For example, it has been decided to begin, starting in 1980, a program to increase our capabilities in maintaining and repairing schools, various types of buildings, housing units, roads and highways. For this purpose it has been decided to assign some quantities of construction materials to, the people's government local organs so that they can increase the aforementioned capabilities of maintenance and repair, and especially to assign some quantities for direct sale to the public, which we know is the path . . . [corrects himself] is an effective path by which to solve numerous problems faced in housing.

We can mention some of the intial figures with which we are dealing. In cement, for example, which is the main and most critical element, we plan to sell 100,000 tons this year which is about to end, more than last year. There are also important increases in paint, steel bars, wire, pipes, sand, stone, bathroom tile, bricks, tile and other supplies. We will almost double, in relation to 1979, the sale of bathroom fixtures. In the same way, we have planned to assign some materials to agricultural cooperatives to assist them in better using the land and contributing to their increasing provisions to our population. In sum, it is estimated that in 1980, between the people's government organs and the population, maintenance and repair of housing activities will be carried out at a value of over 170 million pesos. This will undoubtedly aid in lessening the problems, but of course it is not a total solution for all needs. Under these conditions, the need for more rational and efficient use of the resources we have available becomes clearer than ever before. Therefore, if these resources are few, we must be able to use them in a greater number of projects and with the highest quality possible. We have to have the [construction] sector wage a real struggle to optimally invest every cent of foreign exchange we spend and search for all substitutions, thus avoiding the need for imports from the capitalists.

And we especially have to concentrate on and proceed without truce in the battle of the revolution against all forms of negligence, deformations and deficiencies which slow our progress. This is in our hands to be resolved. As was well pointed out recently by Comrade Raul, this is not an attempt at superficial agitation, nor at tossing out some slogans. This deals with getting to the bottom of the matter and calmly but firmly applying all measures necessary to bring to health what is ill and establish in an integrated manner the conditions which will prevent these ills from recurring in the future.

What we want is for the party to strengthen itself and daily increasingly fulfill its role as the vanguard of society. What we want is for the state administration to be increasingly more efficient, increasing its authority and being an example of modesty and austerity. What we want is for every worker to completely fulfill his duties, the first of which is to fully take advantage of the working day, thus eliminating indiscipline, absenteeism and the rest of the problems affecting us. We are not only thinking about the deficiencies of others. We are first of all thinking about the deficiencies we have in construction and the production of construction materials at each work place which we have to bravely and decisively face with a true critical spirit.

For some time now, in response to the directives issued by Fidel at the national assembly and the resolution of the PCC Politburo, workers assemblies have been held in the construction sector to study and discuss these negative phenomena. All over we have found the energetic and militant response of the working class, the technical and management cadres, and their concrete suggestions to confront and resolve these problems. We have seen workers blush with shame at all the deficiencies and mistakes we still make. And we have said that we welcome this shame if it then becomes a determination to struggle with tenacity and intransigence and to be demanding with ourselves and with others in a truly critical and self-critical spirit in the determination to fulfill one's assignment and overcome any difficulty. We welcome this shame if it teaches us to live and work with greater modesty, responsibility and dedication to the revolutionary cause. We welcome [this shame] if we know how to convert it into a real force to triumph in this struggle and emerge from this stronger and more revolutionary than ever.

We have to tirelessly continue the battle against mistakes which permit excessive increases in average salaries above the levels of productivity resulting from noncompliance with the salary policy, deficiencies in the control of personnel, paid salaries for work not done, violations of the policy linking salary to work standards, indiscriminate use of the so-called commitment pledges, payments of unauthorized premiums and larger salaries than established for the position without any legal justification, unwarranted payments due to interruptions, extra hours and abnormal working conditions. We have to continue struggling to reestablish at all costs technological discipline to prevent completion of deficient projects, use of materials of lesser quality and the rest of the quality problems in construction.

We call on the comrades who work on and manage projects to search for solutions based on just economic criteria adjusted to our reality and which show savings in material and human resources. We call on all comrades responsible for occupational safety to make their maximum efforts to solve these problems and end indiscipline which every year causes a large number of fatal accidents, injuries and material losses. [We call on] management to comply with established legislation and the trade union to strongly demand the safety of every worker and have every worker responsibly observe the [safety] measures he should take.

On this day of the construction worker, presided over as usual by the unforgettable memory of Armando Mestre Martinez, we ask--with all the revolutionary feelings of our comrades in the party, party youth organization, administration and trade union--something of every worker in the construction sector. What we ask of you is to wage with all your energies and abilities a sustained and profound effort to solve these problems; tirelessly redouble the battle against all forms of indiscipline, negligence and tolerance; redouble, with the support of all sectors, the emulation movement, the vanguard force and the work of the innovators and rationalizers; redouble the determination for technical training, and qualifications of our workers, in winning the battle to obtain a sixth grade education and in obtaining appropriate training for all of our management cadres.

We have to redouble the struggle to completely apply the system of economic management and planning, which is an effective instrument in organizing, controlling and fully encouraging the development of the productive forces and productivity of our workers; redouble support for fulfilling our construction tasks abroad, which is a field of great political and economic significance. Our internationalist construction workers are already working in 11 countries and we are providing cooperation and technical assistance to seven other countries. It is necessary to apply the salary measures to complement the construction teams and technical and management reinforcements so that quality and efficiency are always the guarantee of our work abroad.

On this day of the construction worker, our warmest congratulations go to all construction workers in the country who are the worthy vanguard of the creative work of the revolution. Our very special congratulations go to the 3,000 veterans of the [construction] sector who today are receiving the honorable Armando Mestre award for having worked [applause] for 25 years or longer in construction and for being inspiring examples for the young workers in this sector. Our fervent embrace goes out to the thousands of construction workers who today are far from the homeland fulfilling with true revolutionary spirit internationalist tasks and raising high the prestige of our working class. [applause]

In a few weeks the revolution will have its 21st anniversary. Twenty-one years ago, around this same time, the rebel army and the people were marching forward with an irresistible momentum in the final offensive against the tyranny, the indomitable spirit of the Moncada [barracks attack] the Granma [yacht landing], the Sierra Maestra [mountains], and the clandestine struggle brought about that historic victory. This same spirit has led us to advance and triumph in all fields over these past 21 years, and with this same spirit we will continue struggling and overcoming in the future. We have never lacked nor do we lack today cowards, defeatists and opportunists. Yesterday we won with the people, and with the people, especially our workers, we are now once again marching forward in this battle. [applause]

Let our blood, sweat, dignity and shame always be as high as our will to struggle with the dedication to the cause and unbreakable faith in victory which has been taught to us by Fidel. [applause]

Long live the day of the construction worker! [applause and shouts of viva] Long live our glorious working class! [applause and shouts of viva] Long live our communist party! [applause and shouts of viva] Long live Fidel! [applause and shouts of viva] Fatherland or death! [applause and shouts of we will win]

PARTY PLENUM FORECASTS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS NEXT YEAR

FL060244 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Excerpts] The ninth plenum of the PCC Central Committee listened to and approved a report on the economic situation in the country and the degree of fulfillment of the national economic plan for 1979. They also reviewed the circumstances foreseen for next year and the guidelines for management statistics to be drawn up. On this last aspect a set of limitations are foreseen following a reduced sugarcane harvest due to rot in part of the area and other factors. This will have a negative affect on sugarcane cultivation and cause problems in guaranteeing some basic products from abroad as a result of difficulties faced by the supplying countries. To this is added the constant and growing increase in the cost of articles we have to acquire from the capitalist area.

The ninth plenum of the PCC Central Committee called on organizations, enterprises and the rest of the workplaces in the various sectors and fields of the economy, especially those with priority and other basic areas such as those dealing with production of exportable goods, to make their greatest efforts to use existing resources with the greatest efficiency possible, to work in an organized manner and strictly fulfill the regulations established by the management and planning, which is being introduced gradually.

Primary objectives of this ninth plenum of the PCC Central Committee included: that there be no surplus or idle resource in one place while it is needed somewhere else; that quality of production and service improve; and that administrative leaders and officials take on the full responsibilities of their tasks by being demanding and active in carrying them out, beginning with themselves, and take strict measures on negligence, apathy, indolence and irresponsibility.

NUCLEAR ENERGY TO BE USED AS SOURCE OF ELECTRICITY

FL051258 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Cuba will use nuclear energy as a source of electricity, Paulino Alvarez, official of our country's Ministry of Electric Power Industry, has announced in a speech at the 15th meeting of the Central Committee of the Commission for Regional Electric Integration--CIER--in Lima, Peru. Alvarez pointed out that Cuba needs nuclear energy to reduce the high cost of supplying electric power to the population. He also said that Cuba is developing a broad program of total electrification which will cover 95 percent of the countryside before the century ends. Alvarez added that the development of electrification is part of the economic and social objectives established by the socialist state in the national development plan.

RAUL CASTRO RECEIVES USSR DELEGATION

FL061124 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has received G.S. Pavlov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, chief of its Administration of Affairs and deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, who heads a delegation of his party visiting Cuba at the invitation of the PCC Central Committee.

Attending the meeting held in an atmosphere of cordial camaraderie were (Pavel Temschuskov), chief of section in the CPSU Central Committee; (Mikhail Zubatkin), an official of the Cuba section of the CPSU Central Committee; PCC Politburo and Secretariat member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura; PCC Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero and Manuel Diaz of the PCC Central Committee.

CARTER THREAT OF STERNER MEASURES AGAINST IRAN NOTED

FL062354 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Text] New York--President James Carter has told an audience of some one hundred congressmen of a plan to slowly, according to him, tighten the screws on Iran. In regard to this meeting, which was held last night in Washington, the ABC television news reported that the White House is sending two high-level officials to Europe to exert pressure so that the U.S. political and economic measures are carried out against Iran in a new attempt to obtain the release of the hostages held in their embassy in Tehran.

According to broadcast media, the measures required from its European allies include refusing to allow Iranian planes to land, freezing the shipment of machinery and equipment spare parts and other measures directed at voiding loans and credits to the Islamic Revolutionary Council. Later on other sources added that Carter told the congressmen that he was even willing to cut off shipments of food to Iran.

U.S. MARINE 'INTERVENTION FORCE' TO BE CREATED

FL061141 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Text] U.S. Marine Gen (O. Kelly) stated in Washington that U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown has approved the creation of an emergency expeditionary force of that branch of the armed services which would be used in area theaters of operations. According to General (Kelly) this force, which certainly is an unmistakable intervention tool, would be operational by 1985 and will be composed of 45,000 troops. It is expected that by 1983 it will have more than 16,000 men. Likewise, (Kelly) pointed out that the so-called mobile unit will be used in regions of the so-called Third World, in other words, in areas where U.S. domination is clearly manifested.

MORA HERMAN RAPS U.S. POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA, CARIBBEAN

FL061503 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] (Marco Horacio Mejia Palma), deputy and chairman of the ruling Revolutionary Party of Guatemala, recently announced that his party from now on would not support military candidates for the country's presidency. According to (Mejia Palma), the military is yielding to civilian rule. This is very interesting if we see it as part of the general situation in Central America, especially after the revolutionary triumph in Nicaragua, and as part of the situation in the Caribbean after the change effected in Grenada.

U.S. diplomacy is pressuring Central American military governments. This indicates a certain new politico-diplomatic concept that is not usual for this part of the continent. Undoubtedly, the James Carter administration clearly has adopted a policy of open intervention in the internal affairs of Central American and Caribbean countries. This policy, as revealed by the newspaper the Washington POST, is part of recommendations contained in a so-far secret report made by U.S. diplomat Philip Habib.

Carter's interventionist policy already was revealed in his 1 October speech. At that time, he asserted that the United States would increase its assistance to alleviate the still unsatisfied economic and human needs in the region. The Washington government is trying to [words indistinct] effects of the revolution in Nicaragua and Grenada. The United States considers any attempt by a Latin American or Caribbean government to set an independent line in its foreign policy a threat to its security.

The Washington POST revealed that Philip Habib's report recommends that the United States concentrate more attention on problems of internal security and ideological direction in the English-speaking Caribbean. According to the paper, the Department of State is studying ways to establish better training and cooperation with Caribbean police forces. In the specific case of Guatemala, its president, Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia, is very much concerned over what happened in Nicaragua and the changes that have taken place in El Salvador.

The United States tried to apply the same formula it tested in El Salvador--in Guatemala--a democratic opening which softens the dramatic tones of repression. Vice President Francisco Villagran Kramer and the Revolutionary Party of Guatemala (?worked out) with Romeo Lucas a democratic opening that did not materialize, and Villagran Kramer felt obliged to resign, claiming unfulfillment of the commitment.

Romeo Lucas failed U.S. diplomacy just as Anastasio Somoza in Nicaragua and Carlos Humberto Romero in El Salvador failed it before. Instead of a democratic opening, Romeo Lucas intensified repression in Guatemala, especially against the press, carrying out assassinations, imprisonment, tortures and attacks on the offices of opposition newspapers.

The United States knows that the military card no longer works in that area. For this reason, it is promoting those changes which facilitate the access to power of civilian regimes that claim to bring a democratic opening and promise to respect human rights. The military remain in their barracks although always ready to intervene and guarantee internal order and peace. It is a very convenient formula for imperialism but not an easy one in the turbulent setting of Central America and the Caribbean today.

SOVIET PAPER CONDEMNS U.S. MOVES IN CARIBBEAN

FL061949 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1913 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The Soviet paper SOTISIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA today states that the actions of the U.S. Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency--CIA--are a real danger to the Caribbean countries. It recalls that over the past 20 years the U.S. high military command and the espionage services have carried out 5,300 provocations against Cuba, including the killing of Cuban soldiers from the naval base in Guantanamo territory which is illegally occupied by Washington. It adds that U.S. propaganda uses the wornout myth of the Soviet threat to justify the increase in its bellicose actions. The paper states that in fact Washington is increasing its military and economic pressure in the area in an attempt to halt the development of liberation movements in the Caribbean, Central America and other countries on the Latin American continent.

STALEMATE CONTINUES ON U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE

FL060256 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Today the UN General Assembly held a new round of voting to elect the non-permanent Latin American member of the Security Council without being able to decide between the main contenders--Cuba and Colombia. Salim A. Salim, president of the General Assembly, announced that from now on it was proposed to have a vote at all available times in accordance with the work program of that organ. The assembly has already had some 50 votes in which Cuba has always had the advantage over Colombia but lacked the required majority, which ranges between 95 and 98 votes. In one of the votes today, Cuba led 86 to 60. Inasmuch as it is traditional for the candidate with the fewer votes to withdraw, commentators and many delegates at the United Nations believe that Colombia is acting for the United States by taking the Cuban blockade into the heart of the United Nations.

DOMINICA

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL 'CONCERNED' ABOUT STUDENTS GOING TO CUBA

FL061620 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Dec 79 p 3 FL

[Excerpt] Roseau, Dominica, Nov. 30 (CANA)--Eleven Dominican students left here today for courses in Cuba, as the Christian Council expressed "a deep measure of concern" over the decision by the government to accept scholarships for its nationals from the Cuban Government.

The youths will study agriculture and forestry. Travelling with them was chief education officer Peter Israel, who will be looking at the syllabus.

In a statement today, the heads of the Christian churches said that they were at pains to know why the government had accepted the scholarships when it had only recently dismissed two government officials for their alleged communist ideology.

Although noting that the churches were not against scholarships being offered to Dominicans to further studies abroad, the churchmen said "there is the possibility that these students may return with a communistic bias."

JAMAICA

GLEANER DENIES CHARGES LINKING IT WITH CIA

FL061615 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 2 Dec 79 p 12 FL

[GLEANER editorial: "The CIA Innuendo and the GLEANER"]

[Excerpts] In the past week, the government's newspaper and the JBC along with the organ of the Communist Workers Party of Jamaica have been implicating by innuendo this newspaper with the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA. This has been done by the publication of news items to the effect that two former CIA operatives had declared that a British feature service--the Forum World Features--had been a "news agency of the CIA," and because the GLEANER publications had published some 78 features from this service in the period 1974 to 1975, the GLEANER was thus linked to the CIA.

In a news release carried by the government's media, a group calling itself "The Joint Committee for Women's Rights" consisting of the committee of women for progress and the PNP women's movement went further. The news release was based on a letter to the editor of the GLEANER on November 18 signed by Mrs. Ingrid Kirkwood for the CWP and M.P. Portia Simpson for the PNP women's movement which said:

"The joint committee for women's rights (the CWP and the (PNPWM) has noted with alarm that between February 1974 and June 1975, a total of 71 weeks, the GLEANER company has published in the GLEANER and STAR over 78 articles from the CIA news agency, Forum World Features. This would amount to more than one article per week, a very high level of contact between a national media house and the United States Central Intelligence Agency.

"Naturally, we are deeply concerned about the basis of this cooperation, and especially since articles about women and children figure significantly among the group. We are therefore asking that you confirm whether the period in which these articles were carried corresponds with the period when Mr. Hector Wynter joined the GLEANER as associate editor.

"We are sure you will agree that the national interest demands that the GLEANER company institute an immediate internal investigation into this matter and that you make the results of this investigation available to the public.

Now, what are the facts? The Forum World Features was a feature service-not a news agency-of which the chairman was Mr. Ian Hamilton. It operated out of Kern House 61/61 Lincolns Inn Fields, London WC 2.

The GLEANER bought from that service a number of articles beginning in 1973; these features were published in the GLEANER and in the STAR.

The GLEANER was then, and is still, unaware as to whether the service had any connections with the secret service whether of the USA, of the UK or of the Soviet Union. The GLEANER does not have powers of investigation to investigate whether any feature service or any newspaper abroad has received any funding from any intelligence sources. The GLEANER's policy has been and is to consider the articles themselves to see (a) if they have any merit (b) if they will be of interest to the Jamaican public and (c) if the GLEANER can afford to pay for them and (d) if foreign exchange is available to pay for them. In the case of the Forum World Features-the GLEANER bought and paid for each feature published in 1973, in 1974 and in 1975 up to June 1975. Forum World Features folded and went out of existence in May 1975.

The GLEANER will continue to buy and publish features of interest to its readers based on the quality of those features and the availability of foreign exchange to buy them. We deplore the innuendo that because a feature service-the FWF is alleged to have had funding from an intelligence agency, then that means that the GLEANER itself had links with the agency concerned.

No one in the UK has yet accused Her Majesty the Queen of having links with the KGB because her art adviser the former Sir Anthony Blunt was a self-confessed Soviet spy while he acted as her art adviser.

ST VINCENT

CATO LEADS PARTY TO 'SMASHING' ELECTORAL VICTORY

PA061448 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1240 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Kingstown, 6 Dec (LATIN-REUTER)--Prime Minister Milton Cato led his St Vincent Labor Party (SVLP) to a smashing electoral victory, winning 11 of the 13 parliamentary seats at stake.

The victory is a result of Cato's bold measure of calling for a general election only a few weeks after this 380-square-km volcanic island obtained its independence from Great Britain.

The other two seats were won by the New Democratic Party (NDP), one of the three groups that tried to seize power from Cato. All other political leaders, including the NDP's James Mitchell, were soundly defeated by the SVLP candidates. Mitchell and Benezar Joshua, of the Peoples Political Party, were swept out of Parliament as a result of their total rejection by the 52,000 voters.

Mitchell had been unbeatable in Granadinas District, a chain of small islands near St Vincent, but this time he left this seat to his colleague, Cosmos Cozier, to compete in the capital.

CHILE

FINANCE MINISTER MINIMIZES IMPORTANCE OF U.S. AID CUT

PY062058 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Chilean Finance Minister Sergio de Castro did not attribute much importance to the announced cut in U.S. aid to Chile. He said that until now we have been working without credits and added that Chile has been rejecting U.S. aid because there are always strings attached. Furthermore, he said many times this aid was nominal. De Castro made these statements to a group of international officials at a conference on the state of the Chilean economy. Asked about the status of credit requests submitted to international credit organizations, he noted: Chile has made the decision to continue with its economic programs, which are very sound and therefore favorably accepted by these institutions. We trust that good judgment will prevail. During his stay in Washington, De Castro met with Robert McNamara, World Bank president; Antonio Ortiz Mena, IDB president; and Jacques de Larosiere, IMF managing direction.

CENTRAL BANK NEGOTIATING $155 MILLION IN LOANS

PY062105 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1616 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 6 Dec (LATIN)--The Central Bank announced here today that Chile is negotiating two loans totaling $155 million with international financing organizations. Guillermo Gree, director of the Central Bank International Organizations Department, told journalists that the larger of these credits, for $120 million, is pending at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). This credit is to finance part of a hydroelectric project in the southern region of the country. Another loan, for $35 million, is pending at the World Bank. This credit will be used for agricultural development. The negotiations for its approval will last about 6 months, said the high-ranking official, who denied reports from Washington that Chile had 7 financing programs totaling $343.5 million pending with those international organizations.

COLOMBIA

MEDICAL INTERNS, RESIDENTS BEGIN NATIONWIDE STRIKE

PA061636 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] A total of 2,000 interns and residents began a nationwide strike at 0700 today to protest the government's lack of attention to their requests. The president of the national association of interns and residents, Jose Luis (Calum), announced that the strike will affect 22 percent of the nation's medical services and facilities. The 24-hour strike will be a warning in the face of the imminent nationwide doctor's strike, (Calum) added.

Government Reaction

PA061939 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The Colombian Government today rejected the strike called by interns and residents in university hospitals.

The government announced that special measures have been taken to guarantee normal services at the hospitals. Public Health Minister Alfonso Jaramillo Salazar said that according to the regulations, the interns and residents of the university hospitals cannot belong to labor unions or engage in strikes. Jaramillo Salazar added that any negotiations will be conducted directly with the school of medicine of the respective hospitals. The minister added that the government's contribution to the interns and residents will be increased by 2,000 pesos as of 1 January 1980. The doctors strike was very noticeable at noon today at La Ortua Hospital in Bogota. The union insists that the strike is being carried out in the main cities of the country.

ECUADOR

DEMOCRATIC LEFT TO WORK WITH ROLDOS ADMINISTRATION

PA062236 Paris AFP in Spanish 2019 GMT 6 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] Quito, 6 Dec (AFP)--The Democratic Left, the second-strongest political force in Ecuador, has agreed to cooperate in the government of President Jaime Roldos Aguilera in positions of administrative responsibility, it was announced here officially today. After 3 weeks of talks between delegates of the government, the People's Democracy--participating in the present regime--and the Democratic Left, a draft political program was completed containing the measures to be implemented by the new government team under President Roldos.

The Democratic Left announced its decision late last night to join the cabinet of President Roldos following a meeting of its National Executive Council, which discussed the issue behind closed doors for 8 hours. The party's national director, Gonzalo Cordova, made the official announcement. The president of the republic, Jaime Roldos, has offered the party the ministries of Agriculture and Social Welfare as well as the presidency of the National Housing Board, Cordova said. With the participation of the Democratic Left, the chief of state in a few days will be in a position to put together a new cabinet, which he promised to announce officially on 10 December, on the anniversary of his government's fourth month in power. Cordova said the basic reasons for the Democratic Left's decision to cooperate are the similarity of programs and the wish to contribute to the strengthening of the constitutional system.

PERU

POLITICANS COMMENT ON DEMOCRACY, INTERGROUP DISCUSSIONS

PY061639 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Armando Villanueva del Campo, presidential candidate of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA], said that there is no problem in talks with the government or with talks among the political parties if this will guarantee democracy. He said that the talks with the prime minister centered mostly on the budget and the electoral process, especially regarding those Peruvians who are residing abroad. It is Villanueva's opinion that the dialog must continue with all the political parties, and he asserted that he is ready to talk with all the leaders of the various political groups, without exception.

He termed as very serious the problem that has emerged between the United States and Iran.

The leader of the Popular Christian Party [PPC], Luis Bedoya Reyes, emphatically asserted yesterday that the transfer of power demands dialog and close ties among everyone in order to restore an authentic democracy. Bedoya maintains that those who decide not to participate because they believe that any type of contact with the men in the government is sinful or suspect are fully outside the normality of democratic negotiations. He also reported that it is very possible that former President Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero will invite the leaders of the larger political parties to a dialog, and that if this meeting is successfu, it might be named the Bustamante pact. Bedoya insists the dialog refers to the ethical norms of electoral conduct which the various sectors that are committed to the upcoming electoral campaign willhave to observe, with the possibility of further meeting with a larger scope. He also insists that the national dailies be returned to their owners, and he demanded the most extensive use of the media during the electoral campaign.

URUGUAY

ARMY COMMANDER DISCUSSES 1981 ELECTIONS

PY061608 Paris AFP in Spanish 1314 GMT 5 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Dec (AFP)--Army Commander Luis Queirolo disclosed here today the possibility that there will be more than one candidate in the 1981 elections. He announced that outlawed politicians will not be rehabilitated for the elections. At the end of a ceremony held on Tuesday in Trinidad to commemorate Artillery Day, General Queirolo reasserted that the armed forces "will continue to share government power" after the 1981 elections.

About the candidates for these elections, Queirolo said that it has not yet been established whether there will be more than one candidate. He noted that "this is an issue which is under discussion." Government sources have maintained for a long time that elections would be held at the end of 1981, and that the two traditional parties, the Blanco and the Colorado parties, would present a single candidate with the approval of the armed forces.

Regarding institutional laws, which form a system used by the government since 1976 to make important decisions, General Queirolo said that they will not be revised under any circumstances.

About those politicians whose activities were outlawed for 15 years through Institutional Law No 4, Queirolo said that "they were not loyal to the fatherland at a given time," and that they would be rehabilitated "many years from now, at the proper time, but not right now." He stated that the government would lift the restrictions on "those politicians who offered their spontaneous and healthy cooperation" to the present process.